

Town of Camden
Community & Economic Development Advisory Committee Agenda (CEDAC)

Monday, June 25, 2012, 5:30 PM
Washington St. Conference Room

Meeting Attendees and Notes

Attendees

- CEDAC and Liaison: Peter Gross (Chair), Brian Hodges, Rick Bates, and Ellis Cohn

Notes

1. **Minutes of 4/23/2012 meeting were approved.**
2. **Town meeting updates**
 - *TIF funds* - \$30,000 approved for implementing Downtown Master Plan recommendations
 - *Tannery site* – Select Board may dispose of property provided guiding principles met; continues to be marketed
3. **Downtown Master Plan**
 - *Grant applications and site visit* – 3 applications will be submitted to Maine DOT for various Camden projects, 1 focuses on Downtown Master Plan recommendations; site visit by Maine DOT on June 29th to review potential areas of focus; final discussion by Downtown Network Board will occur on July 23rd with recommendation to Select Board July 31st
 - *Continuation of work group* – rename to Downtown Network Board; recently endorsed by Select Board; meetings will be open to the public to attend
4. **CEDAC membership**
 - *Expiring terms – new members*; John Arnold and Mike Tyler termed out and not renewing; 2 applicants being sought; Rick Bates will re-up
 - *Chair, Vice Chair, minutes* – decided once new members determined
5. **Mid Coast Economic Development District**
 - a. *General Assembly meeting* – Peter and Brian attended as Camden’s delegates; Roger Moody attended as the Knox County representative; by-law changes voted on; overview given of Mobilize Maine strategy to support regional economic development efforts; Maine is 1 of 7 states trying this new approach of “bottom up” asset-based development, and is being monitored by the US Economic Development Administration; there will be an opportunity for CEDAC to get involved by way of participating in and/or recommending names for committees

- b. *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)* – Brian reviewed that Camden's Ragged Mountain Recreation Area redevelopment was successfully placed in the top 8 projects for the MCEDD region; this does not provide funding but endorses the project so when funding and support is requested, it can be shown that it seen as one of the highest, regionally significant projects in the MCEDD territory.
- c. *Community Development Block Grant and Maine Housing forum* – MCEDD hosted a forum for area communities to comment on effectiveness and potential changes to the 2013 program statements of DECD's Block Grant program and Maine Housing's program; overviews of the various programs were provided; formal comments were provided by Camden that the thresholds and eligibility criteria should be revisited so broader access by other communities is possible; in addition, bonus points are awarded for particular designations but communities are still unable to apply for funding even if designated due to other criteria eliminating them from consideration; a 2nd comment was provided to have the due dates of certain programs revisited to better reflect actual business and community needs

6. **Public comment /questions on agenda items** - none

7. **Adjourn** 6:50PM Next meeting July 23rd as Downtown Network Board